

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9420

INRO RUEHDC/USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 1340

USDOC FOR MEDP/CONGER

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BENC, GB

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECTS: OWENDO PORT, SANTA CLARA, TRANSGABON SPUR

REF: STAE 116445

1. ALTHOUGH REFTEL INQUIRED ONLY ABOUT OWENDO PORT ON BEHOLF OF BROWN AND ROOT, FOLLWOING MESSAGE PROVIDES MOST RECENT INFORAMTION AVAILABLE ON ALL THREE MAJOR PROJECTS, WICH USDOC MAY CALL TO ATTENTION OF ALL INTERESTEFUS FIRMS, INCLUDING BROWN AND ROOT.

2. EMBASSY CONTACTED CLAUDE DAMAS, DIRECTOR OF OFFICE DES PORTS ET RADES DU GABON (OPRAG), WHO PROFESSED NO REPEAT NO KNOWLLEDGE OF BRWONS AND ROOT INTEREST IN OWENDO PORT CONSTRUCTION. ACCORDING TO DAMAS, BCEOM STUDY HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN COMPLETED AND WOULD BE REVIEWED BY OPRAG BEFORE PRESENATION TO GOG FOR FIAL APPROVAL. THIS PROCESS NOT EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED UNTIL OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1977. DAMAS INDICATED THAT OWENDO PORT CONSTRUCTION COST WOULD RANGE FRM TWENTY FOUR TO FORTY EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS. REFTEL INDICATES THAT BROWN AND ROOT HAS LETTER OF AUTORIZATION FROMGOG TO BCEOM TO RELEASE OWENDO PROT STUDY. PLEASE ASK UNCLASSIFIED

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BROWN AND ROOT TO PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS RE THIS AUTHORIZATION, SIGNED BY WHOM, ETC, AND WE WILL MAKE FURTHER INQUIREIES.)

3. BROWN AND ROOT AND THER US FIRMS HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SANATA CLARA PORT CONSTRUCTION, ESTIMATED AT 250 MILLION DOLLARS. SANATA CLARA BID MAY BE CALLED

FOR IN CONJUNCTIO WITH BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TRANSGABON
SPUR LINE BETWEEN OWENDO AND SANTA CLARA. BOTH
OPRAG AND OCTRA (TRANSGABON RAILROAD) WILL HAVE JURISDICTION.
SPUR LINE COST ESITMATED AT FORTY MILLION
DOLLAR: PRE ENGINERRING STDY FOR SPUR LINE IS BEING
DONE BY DUTCH FIRMOF BISH AND PARTNERS; CALL FOR BIDS
IS ECPECTED DURING JULY OR AUGUST.

4. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT INTERESTED US FIRMS MUST PREQUALIFY
FOR ALL THREE PROJECTS. US FIRMS NEED ONLY
ADDRESS A LETTER, IN FRENCH, TO APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATION
HERE IE, OPRAG FOR SANTA CLARA AND OWENDO PORTS AND
BOTH OPRAG AND OCTRA FOR TRANSGABON SPUR. IN ADDITION
WE SUGGST THAT COMPANIES ADDRESS SIMILAR LETTER TO
MIISTER OF TRAPSPORT RAWIRI. EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED
TO HAD DELIVER LETTERS AND SUGGEST THAT THEY BE
FORWARDED THROGH USDOC/MEPD VIA POUCH.

5. WE ALSO PLAN TO PRAPARE EMBASSY LETTER TO OPRAG,
OCTRA, AND MIINSTER OF TRANSPORT TO PUT ON RECORD
INTEREST OF US FIRMS IN THESE PROJECTS AND TO STATE
THAT PREQUALIFICATION LETTERS WILL BE FORTHCOMING. STEIGMAN

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Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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